MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Established 1924

Affiliated to the Philatelic Federation of South Africa

NEWSLETTER

"Fun with Stamps"

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THE JOY OF SPRING

Reminiscent melodies
serenade the morning breeze.
Feathered creatures nest with care
in cherry blossoms pink and fair.
Perfumed scent of roses flow.
Tiny blades of green grass grow.
Misty showers soak the earth,
glorious colours come to birth.
Gathering clouds come and go,
rain, sun, and vibrant bow.
Dainty petals, fancy flair,
dancing in the warm, sweet air.
Violets, yellows, purest white,
graceful, gentle, welcomed sight.
Thank you, oh sweet lovely Spring,
patiently waiting the charms you bring!
by Patricia L. Cisco

SPRING CLEANING!

This is the time of year when most people "spring clean" their homes and re-arrange the furniture. It is also time to clean-up the garage and attend to the garden but, what about stamps? Surely this is also a good time to sort out unwanted lots and consign them to an auction? What about filling a couple of books for the many Circuit Book rounds? Feel the energy of Spring and work on your stamps!

BURTON-ON-TRENT PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Whilst on holiday in the UK recently, the author and his daughter, Chloe Paine, visited the Burton-On-Trent Philatelic Society where we were made to fee most welcome. The meeting was held at the public library on Tuesday 06 August 2019 starting at 19h30 and ending at 21h30 where-after members adjourned to a nearby pub for a pint before going home!

The BOT has 12 members. The President is Richard Farman, the Secretary is Roger Barraclough and the Treasurer, Ian Gibson. Membership costs GBP15 p.a.(R272 approximately) Six members each bring a small gift to the meeting (in this instance 4 bottles of beer and 2 jars of marmalade) and raffle tickets are sold at one pound each.

The author was lucky enough to win a jar of marmalade! The main item for the meeting was "Members' Displays" Ten frames each holding 12 pages were available and the displays were put up in two sessions. Of particular interest was the Aviatrix display shown by Ian Gibson.

Amy Johnson – ATA Volunteer

The Aviatrix Display covered the ATA (Air Transport Auxiliary Service) and the women who delivered planes to various airfields throughout Britain during the Second World War. There were no radios and flight plans were to be found in the cockpit! One of the popular pilots was Amy Johnson whose life ended tragically when she was either shot-down when flying in dense cloud over the Thames Estuary or crashed into barrage balloons which she did not see. She managed to bail-out and it is thought that she was killed by the propellers of a ship that tried to rescue her. The ship grounded on a sand-bank and was trying to reverse off the sand-bank at the time. It was interesting to learn that the captain of the ship that was trynig to rescue her, drowned due to hyperthermia when he jumped over-board to try and save Amy!

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The welcome which we received from both Customs and Immigration at King Shaka Airport was over-whelming and made us feel good to be back home! Now all we need are some contributions for publication in the Newsletter which will make life even better!

BURTON-ON-TRENT (Continued)

During the second session, our host and President of the club, Richard Farman, showed a collection of Boer War material (hastily put together when he learnt that two South Africans from Pietermaritzburg would be attending the meeting!) which included an article about the 4th Sherwood Foresters from Staffordshire. We were able to tell the meeting that the 45th Sherwood Foresters formed the garrison at Fort Napier (in Pietermaritzburg) and were responsible for building the 45th cutting in Sherwood which is a Durban suburb named after them.

We thoroughly enjoyed the meeting and should like to thank the BOT for their hospitality and look forward to a continued relationship with them. They do have a website which can be found on:
www.burtonphilatelicsociety.org.uk

THE HOBBIES FAIR

Pat Izaaks, with the help of various club members, prepared and manned our stand at the annual Hobbies Fair which was held at Bisley Park on 03 and 04 August this year. The show was well attended with several visitors calling at our stand to view the exhibits on display. A big "Thank you" to Pat and his team!

THE ALPHABET SHOW

The letter G <for giraffe> is the subject for the next ordinary meeting. Please make-up a page or two and show something interesting.

CONGRATULATIONS

At our August meeting, several entries were received for the CESA competition which was judged by Roger Porter. The winner was Dave Beyers for his astonishing New Zealand exhibit. Well done Dave.

TOP: Aubrey Bowles with Ian Gibson who showed and discussed his wonderful ATA Collection (Ian is the club Treasurer)
BOTTOM: Aubrey Bowles and Richard Farman with part of his Boer War collection (Richard is the club President)

TRADITIONAL PHILATELY

This new group, to be led by our club president Dave Wyllie, will be held at St Mathews Parish Hall on Monday 16 September 2019 at 15h00
Interested members and guests are welcome.

BIRTHDAY WISHES

We wish the following members a very happy birthday and hope that they enjoy a wonderful year!

12 September VAL DE JAGER

As a Virgo born on this day, you are you are characterized by your reserved and sensitive nature. Some may describe you as shy, but this only stems from your preference to stay out of the spotlight. Virgos are known for their nurturing and rule-abiding behaviour.

24 September FRED HANDMAN
29 September SUSAN BOWES-TAYLOR

CONGRATULATIONS!

Being a Libra, you are recognized for your sociability, diplomacy and style. You thrive in group settings, as you always seem to know what to say or do to bring harmony to the group. Your warm and caring personality is met with style that your peers and friends admire.

Having just returned from six weeks abroad, this newsletter is a two-page edition. October will see a return to the normal four page format. Thank you for understanding.